



# NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY  
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

**TODD P. GRAVES**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **CLEVELAND, MO., MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO IDENTITY THEFT, FRAUD**

**KANSAS CITY, Mo.** – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a Cleveland, Mo., man pleaded guilty in federal court today to identity theft and fraud.

**Jeremy David Peery**, 30, of Cleveland, pleaded guilty before U.S. District Judge Fernando J. Gaitan this morning to the charges contained in a Feb. 10, 2005, federal indictment.

By pleading guilty today, **Peery** admitted that he used the Social Security number of another person as a means of identification in order to obtain an American Express card. **Peery** then used that credit card and others to make approximately \$8,000 in purchases.

Under federal statutes, **Peery** could be subject to a sentence of up to 30 years in federal prison without parole, plus a fine up to \$500,000 and an order of restitution. A sentencing hearing will be scheduled after the completion of a presentence investigation by the United States Probation Office.

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney John E. Cowles. It was investigated by the Kansas City, Mo., Police Department and the U.S. Postal Inspection Service.

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This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at

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